

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination and reconsideration of the above-identified application are respectfully requested.

Claims 6, 12, 40, 47 and 60-62 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly not being described in the application. To expedite allowance of this application, these claims have all been cancelled. This cancellation is made without prejudice or disclaimer of this subject matter. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims in a continuation application.

This sole rejection is thus now rendered moot.

Applicants note with appreciation that the remaining claims, claims 5, 7-9, 14-16, 21-26, 31-33, 37-39, 44-46, 51 and 63, are deemed allowed. In view of the cancellation of the rejected claims, these claims are now the only pending claims. The instant application should thus now be in condition for allowance.

It is respectfully submitted that all rejections have been overcome by the above amendments. Thus, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this amendment or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would contact the undersigned attorney by telephone at (650) 622-2360 so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: December 1, 2003

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

By: *Donna M. Meuth* #39,300
for Donna M. Meuth
Registration No. 36,607